



STATE OF
MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

PHONE NO.

P. O. Box 6247
St. Paul, MN 55055

FILE NO.

November 30, 1987

Mr. G. V. Welk, Manager
Regulatory Compliance and Services
Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Dear Mr. Welk:

PERMIT 80-5081, PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT, GOODHUE CO.

Special Provision #12 of the above referenced permit to monitor the ice cover of Lake Pepin is no longer required. Analysis of the data collected over the five year period does not indicate continued monitoring of the ice cover of Lake Pepin will necessarily identify the impact of the thermal discharge into Lake Pepin even during extreme periods of low flow or occurrence of high flow. Should uncharacteristic areas of open water or ice thinness develop and become prevalent, modeling may be required to determine if thermal discharge from Prairie Island is the cause.

We appreciate your compliance with this provision and cooperation with this Department. If you have any questions, please contact Area Hydrologist, Jim Haertel at (507) 285-7430.

Sincerely,

Ronald D. Harnack
Administrator
Permit and Land Use Section

cc: Lee Eberly, NSP ✓
Larry Gates, Fisheries, Lake City
Goodhue County Sheriff
Waters, Rochester
Greg Turner, C. O.
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
MPCA, St. Paul

File Copy
PI Lab

DEPARTMENT : Natural Resource Waters

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office Memorandum

DATE : November 23, 1987

TO : Ronald D. Harnack, Administrator
Permits and Land Use Section

FROM : James F. Cooper, Regional Hydrologist
Jim Haertel, Area Hydrologist *J.S.H.*

PHONE : 285-7430

SUBJECT : PERMIT 80-5081, PRAIRIE ISLAND NUCLEAR GENERATING PLANT

Special Provision #12 of the above referenced permit requires NSP to monitor the ice cover of Lake Pepin for 5 years. In October of 1986, after 5 years of monitoring, NSP requested to discontinue the ice cover monitoring. We required NSP to analyze the data and requested a consultant be contacted. Dr. H. G. Stefan of the St. Anthony Falls Hydraulic Lab analyzed the data and prepared a report titled "Residual Heat Input From the Mississippi River to Lake Pepin During the Winters of 1981/82 to 1985/86". Dr. Stefan's conclusions were, in essence, that no statistically significant impacts on ice cover resulted from the thermal discharge of the plant.

Dr. Stefan did indicate that it is still unknown what impact the heated flow discharged into Lake Pepin would have during periods of extreme low flow or for flows higher than those monitored during the last five years. Continued monitoring would not necessarily result in meaningful data being collected for extreme flow events in the near future since it is unknown when such events will occur. If uncharacteristic ice conditions become prevalent which adversely affect the resource, modeling may be the best way to determine if the adverse conditions are caused by thermal discharge.

We met with Dr. Stefan, officials from NSP and DNR Fisheries staff. Dr. Stefan explained his report in detail. DNR Fisheries had no negative comments. Our analysis of the data in this office does not support continuance of the monitoring program. Based on the above, we recommend that Special Provision #12 not be required any longer.

JC:JH:jp

cc: ~~Lee Eberly, NSP~~
Larry Gates, Fisheries - Lake City
Waters, Rochester
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Greg Turner C. O.
MPCA, St. Paul
Goodhue County Sheriff

File Copy
PI Lab



Ken

Northern States Power Company

414 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401-1927
Telephone (612) 330-5500

November 23, 1994

Jim Dollahan
Pierce County Sheriff's Dept.
P. O. Box 477
Ellsworth, Wisconsin 54011

Dear Jim:

We have finally come to the end of our quest to give ownership of the "Thin Ice" signs to Goodhue and Pierce Counties. NSP has altered the face of the signs the way you and Scott Powers suggested. The signs were delivered to each county per information that I received from each county. What I need now is a letter from you, Jim, stating Pierce County has taken possession of a portion of the "Thin Ice" signs, and Pierce County will take responsibility for putting up and taking down those signs. You may send the letter to the following address:

Linda K. Johnson-Ladd
Northern States Power Company
414 Nicollet Mall, RSQ-8
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Thank you for bearing with us while we took care of this project. We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Ken Mueller
and

Linda K. Johnson-Ladd

c: Gary Brown
Mike Wadley
Ed Watzl

File Copy
PI Lab